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4 August 1982

NOTE FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM : L. Gray Cowan
National Intelligence Officer for Africa

I spent an hour with Frank Wisner yesterday going over the proposed text of the SNIE. Apart from specific criticisms of accuracy of fact, Wisner's view, supported by Crocker, was that any paper published at this particular time in the negotiations would be unhelpful, particularly if the paper assessed possible future behavior of the negotiating parties. It is clear that there are differences in judgment between ourselves and State, for example, on the question of the future of Savimbi.

Frank Wisner is sending over to me and to yourself (Eyes Only) a copy of a position paper which Crocker forwarded to the Secretary on July 28. Crocker has offered to come over and brief you personally on the negotiations when he returns from Paris on Saturday. However, since you will be on leave next week, as will I, I would suggest that you might want to ask Frank Wisner to come over and brief you prior to your departure.

You will need to decide on whether to proceed with a SNIE, recognizing the difficulties of coordination given the sensitive nature of the material; whether to have the paper published as an internal CIA paper or as a third alternative have the paper privately prepared for such use as you may see fit to make of it. [REDACTED] strongly favors proceeding with the SNIE but, failing that, an internal paper. My own feeling is that a coordinated SNIE will be extremely difficult to achieve in that I have information upon which certain conclusions in the paper will be based which I cannot share with the Community. I would incline toward a private paper for you which you might decide at a later date should be published as an ALA paper.

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L. Gray Cowan

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